



**POSITION TITLE: Adaptive Snowsports Instructor Intern**

**PROGRAM: Access Mammoth Adaptive Sports**

**REPORTS TO: Internship Supervisor**

**CONTACT: cleonard@accessmammoth.org**

## **GENERAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Access Mammoth (AM) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing adaptive sports programming and therapeutic recreation for individuals with disabilities. Our programs offer individuals of all ages with any disability the opportunity to enjoy outdoor recreation experiences in the beautiful Eastern Sierra. During the winter season, typically November through April, we provide lessons for alpine skiing and snowboarding at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and cross-country skiing at Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center. We offer state-of-the-art adaptive equipment and specialized teaching methodologies so that anyone with any type of disability can achieve their winter outdoor recreation goals.

## **INTERNSHIP OVERVIEW**

The adaptive snowsports instructor internship is an integral component to AM, supporting daily operations and teaching snowsports. Over the course of the winter season, interns develop skillsets that prepare them for roles as snowsports instructors for individuals with disabilities and as team members of a non-profit organization. At the beginning of the season, interns participate in a minimum of two weeks of training focused on personal skiing performance, snowsports instruction, and adaptive instruction. Intermixed with and following training are opportunities to shadow lessons and eventually transition into the role of secondary or assistant instructors. Through ongoing skills assessments and evaluations, interns eventually become primary instructors. Interns are introduced to various disciplines of adaptive snowsports, including sit skiing, 3-tracking, 4-tracking, and skiing with visual impairments, hearing impairments, or cognitive disabilities. In addition to developing professionally as an adaptive snowsports instructor, interns gain skills associated with operating a non-profit organization.

Our goal is to have fun while we are sharing that fun with others. Most of our lessons are taught by volunteers who are hooked on the feeling they get helping those less fortunate than themselves succeed in life to the best of their abilities!

Our adaptive instructor internship program is focused around the winter on-hill adaptive education of our students, helping them have fun and achieve success. We work with any kind of disability and with various pieces of adaptive equipment. Our program is also designed to give interns exposure to different aspects of running a nonprofit adaptive snowsports school. This includes: the scheduling of student lessons and volunteers, fundraising, special event planning, guest service, program development, and PSIA-AASI Certifications.

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

**Education:** Enrolled in a college or university program requiring a related and approved internship prior to graduation.

**Certifications:** Professional Ski Instructors of America & American Association of Snowboard Instructors (PSIA-AASI) certification preferred but not necessary. Current First Aid/CPR and/or Wilderness First Responder preferred but not necessary.